

## From Pastor's Desk — By Rev. Gerhard Wilch

7086 124 Street  
 Surrey BC V3W 3W8  
 Phone: (604) 594-4033  
 Fax: (604) 594-4071  
 Email: office@faithlutheran.ca  
 Web: faithlutheran.ca



FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Faith in Action



### Reformation Hope

The Reformation begun by Martin Luther 506 years ago brought to light the beautiful Gospel of freedom from sin and hope eternal for a world languishing with worthless works righteousness.

Today our society has turned its back on Christian faith and morality and is entering a new dark age of "progressivism." I wonder whether there will be another "Reformation" to rescue us from this present darkness?

Here I reprint a recent article by Rev. Timothy Teuscher, president of Lutheran Church—Canada, where he offers a unique Christian perspective on the new idolatries that plague our society:

*Diversity... Inclusiveness... Social Justice... Woke Culture... Critical Race Theory... Gender Identity... Cancel Culture.* We've been inundated with these terms over the past few years by the media, politicians, educators, advertisers, the sports sector, businesses, entertainment industry, and, yes, even religious leaders. Many have jumped on the bandwagon, not only promoting such things but condemning those who don't march in step with what is currently deemed socially and politically correct.

It's tempting to throw up your hands in despair over the promotion of ideologies which are contrary to God's Word. But St. Peter reminds us that, as "sojourners and exiles" (1 Peter 2:11) in this sinful and unbelieving world, we should "not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though

something strange were happening to you" (1 Peter 4:12). In fact, all such confusion ultimately has its origin in the devil, whom Jesus calls "a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44).

And notice what the apostle goes on to say: "Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15). What defense—the Greek word is *apologia* or apology—what answer can the Church, can we as individual Christians, give to these things? I would suggest that one way is to turn the tables, so to speak, on these words and phrases that are tossed about so glibly, so falsely, and so carelessly.

In fact, all such confusion ultimately has its origin in the devil, whom Jesus calls "a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44).

After all, is not Christ's Church the true 'cancel culture'? Peter declares: "Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19). Or, as Paul writes: "God made (us) alive together with (Christ), having forgiven us all our trespasses, by

### Worship Times

Sunday  
 Worship  
 Services:



Sunday School---	9:30 AM
Chinese-----	9:45 AM
Bible Study ----	10:00 AM
Hispanic -----	10:00 AM
English-----	11:00 AM
Korean-----	1:00 PM
Oromo-----	3:00 PM

canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross” (Colossians 2:13-14).

Is it not in the Church where ‘critical race theory’ is a reality? Peter says: “You are a chosen race” (1 Peter 2:9) to all believers in Christ, whether they be Jews or Gentiles. We are, as St. John describes the vision given to him of Christ’s Church, “a great multitude from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages” (Revelation 7:9).

Is not the Church the true ‘woke culture’? Jesus says: “Stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:36). Likewise, Paul writes: “So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober” (1 Thessalonians 5:6).

Is it not the Church where true, God-pleasing ‘inclusiveness’ and ‘diversity’ is manifested? “Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all,” Paul says (Colossians 3:11). And further: “For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given us, let us use them” (Romans 12:4-6).

Is it not Christ’s Church which proclaims and reflects the truth regarding ‘gender identity’ and related issues? That, when it comes to our redemption and our relationship with God, it is indeed true that “there is no male or female, for you are all one in Christ” (Galatians 3:28); but, at the same time, that this does not negate God’s original creation of male and female and His institution of marriage between one man and one woman, as Jesus Himself makes quite clear in Mark 10. The apostle Paul brings both of these truths together in these words: “As the church submits to Christ, so

also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her” (Ephesians 5:24-25).

Is it not members of Christ’s Church who are concerned about and engaged in bringing real ‘social justice’ or, more accurately, ‘works of mercy’ to others? The apostle puts it very simply: “As we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone” (Galatians 6:10).

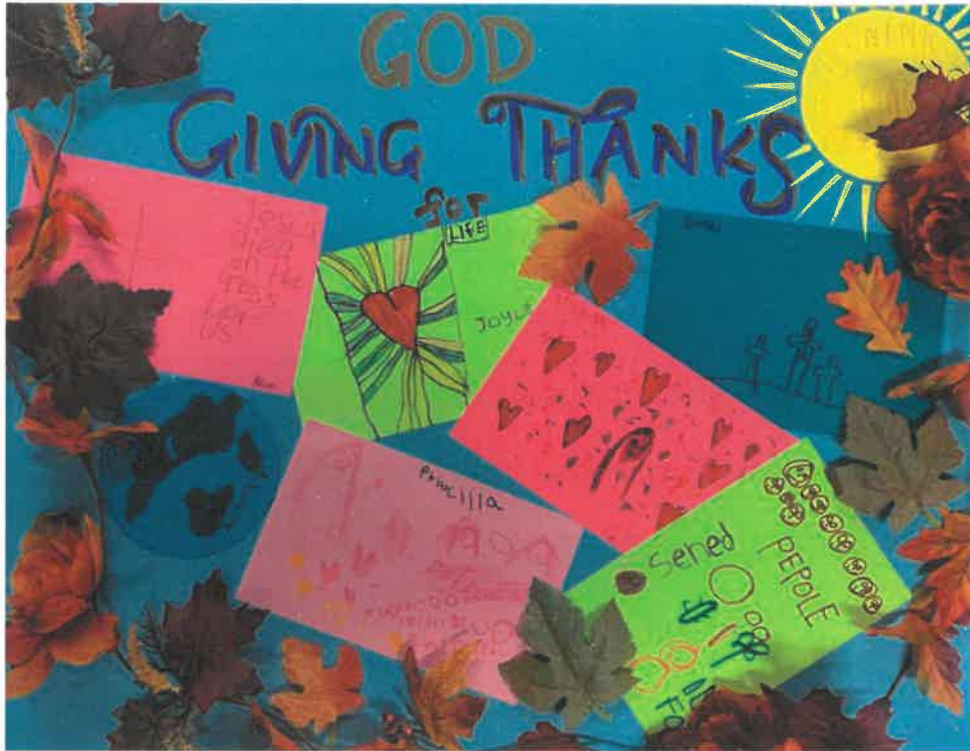
Instead, therefore, of bemoaning this proverbial walk of so many on “the way that leads to destruction” (Matthew 7:13), the apostle Paul encourages us in these words: “Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person” (Colossians 4:5-6).

And let us do so by praying ever more fervently: “Dear Father, Your will be done, not the devil’s will or our enemies’ or anything that would persecute and suppress Your holy Word or hinder Your kingdom. Grant that we may bear with patience and overcome whatever is to be endured because of Your Word and kingdom, so that our poor flesh may not yield or fall away because of weakness or sluggishness” (*Large Catechism* 3:67).



**Rev. Dr. Timothy Teuscher** is President of Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC).

## Giving God Thanks For...



Sunday School Thanksgiving Poster

## Thanksgiving 2023 -by Georg Jendrossek

*Dear family and Friends*

*"Count your blessings" may be hollow advice for a troubled person,*

*but I have every reason to thank God*

*for guiding this 19-year-old immigrant that landed  
at the now famous Pier 21 in Halifax NS, 71 Years ago.*

*The blessings I derived from this wonderful country*

*are far too Numerous to count,*

*through illness or health,*

*times of want or plenty,*

*of successes and failures,*

*incredible highs and crushing lows.*

*I was blessed with a loving wife*

*And 63-year happy marriage.*

*I am surrounded by a multitude of angels*

*Who attend to my every need since becoming bedridden*

*after a disastrous fall 13 months ago.*

*Though this has greatly diminished my ability to communicate  
it has not slowed the number of visitors that come into my room,*

*and new precious friendships are often formed.*

*God has granted me a joyful heart,*

*an active, inquisitive mind*

*with a love for music and the arts.*

*People know that I am a Christian*

*and no one has ever objected to hearing the Gospel.*

*For all this I give Thanks to my Lord Jesus,*

*Who by His grace and mercy*

*is giving me far more than I have earned or deserve.*

*Yes, I have every reason to count*

*my Blessings and wishing you the same.*

*With Love*

*Georg, and Dorothy, who lives in my heart*



**MARTHA ERICKSON AND HER HISTORY WITH  
LWML** By Jo-Anne MacAdam

Martha joined LWML in 1961 when her children were small. She quickly became very involved, and, during her years of service, she stood as President of the B.C. Zone and later, Treasurer of the Alberta-British Columbia District for four years.

Martha decided to attend the LWML convention in Pittsburgh in 1961. She flew to Seattle and then to Chicago where she and about 30 others on their way to the convention boarded the connecting flight to Pittsburgh. Everyone was so excited about attending this large event so far away from home,



**Daughters Wendy and Sandra with Martha** but that excitement turned into fear when, right after take-off, there was a fire in one of the wings. They were told to prepare for a crash and a possible landing in the lake and to put the children down on the floor in the aisles covered with blankets. I am sure that all passengers, including 30 LWMLers were very scared but also prayed fervently to God for their lives to be spared.

The stewardess comforted them, saying that their pilot was one of the best and they were in good hands. He was able to turn the plane around and land safely in Chicago. Praise the Lord! Martha says that when they were exiting the plane, everything was covered in foam and they were told, "Just keep going, and don't look back." But of course, our Martha turned to get a peek and saw that the damaged wing was just hanging off the plane. It was a miracle that everyone was safe.

They were able to catch another flight to Pittsburgh where she remembers being in a hotel in the Golden Triangle on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor. The ladies enjoyed the convention for three days before returning home with no further difficult adventures.

Several years ago, along with Polly Kusch and some other LWML members, Martha played a major part in planning the LWML A-BC District convention held at UBC, where those attending were housed in the dormitories.

Martha continues to enjoy membership in LWMLC as much as she is able, and we thank her for years of service and dedication.



**Alma with Martha**





**Faith LWML presented a flower bouquet to George and Alma in celebration of their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary**



**Faith LWML presented a flower bouquet to Keith and Martha in celebration of their 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary**



**Sunday School Primary Class Show their Thanksgiving Crafts**



**Confirmation Retreat at Walnut Grove, October 13-14, with our students Abby, Matias and Eric.**



**Bible Fellowship & Supper at Blackie Spit on September 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Harvest Celebration at A Rocha on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**



**Bible Study & Supper on October 19<sup>th</sup>**



**Celebrating  
October's  
Birthdays**

**Celebrating  
September's  
Birthdays**



**Oromo Fellowship Celebrating Anaya's First Birthday**

## Reformation Joint Service Celebration



**Sunday School & Chinese Choirs**



**Reformation  
Potluck Fellowship**

## *Sing Hallelujah* by Vancouver Zion Mission Choir on October 31st

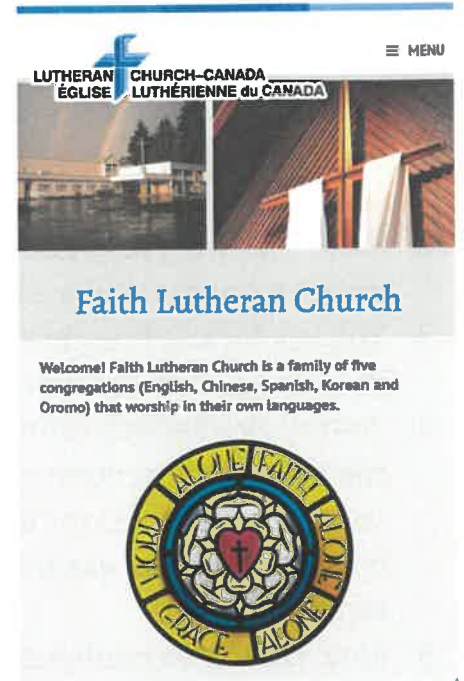


**Soon Shin (holding flowers)  
of our Korean Fellowship is a  
member of this magnificent  
choir which performed at the  
Orpheum Theatre.**



## New website By Ian Stewart

Our new website is live! With God's help, we were able to use a free program offered by LCC for congregation websites. Alex Steinke, director of communications at the Synod, along with their web developer Scott Refvik, has helped us set up a Wordpress site. Alex showed us how to use Wordpress so that we can make changes ourselves. The website shows information about our five fellowships, what we believe, about us, worship recordings and a calendar of events. It is also friendly to mobile phone browsers. Check it out: <https://www.faithlutheran.ca/>



## Maintenance & Repair



**Andrew MacAdam services the pumps in the boiler room.**

**Pastor Kim spots Ian Stewart on the ladder as he removes items from the beams.**



## **REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT – NOVEMBER 1, 2023** By Jo-Anne MacAdam

1. Coastal Lock and Key were hired to come in and re-key 11 locks, including the secretary's office, several preschool doors, and the chapel. Keys were distributed to those who needed them.
2. After this, the Preschool Director reported that the deadbolt lock on the outside office door was not working, so Coastal Lock came back and replaced the deadbolt.
3. The key for the Preschool filing cabinet was found bent as if someone had tried to break in. The key was repaired, and new keys were cut.
4. Surrey Fire Service came in to check our fire safety plan and gave us an order to have the rolldown fire doors repaired and inspected. Our fire safety company would not do it, so we hired Ideal Door to come in. They did the necessary work and provided proof of inspection which was then sent to Surrey Fire Service who were satisfied with the report.
5. Ideal Door also made some adjustments to our main doors.
6. The double door fridge in the kitchen was found not to be working, so we had to call a commercial refrigeration company in to make repairs.
7. The boiler furnace that serves the original building was not functioning properly, so Andrew was able to replace one of the pumps and get the heat back on in the sanctuary.
8. The thermostat to control heat in the sanctuary has been broken for some time, so it was replaced, and a secure locking cover was installed.
9. A wire guard was installed over the other exit sign, north of the basketball hoop, in the gym.
10. Two lights that were out in the New Narthex were replaced.
11. Holes in three walls were repaired.

### **Ongoing Issues**

1. The leak outside the Preschool near the outside Chapel door has been investigated by a plumber and possible repairs are being considered.
2. There are several fluorescent tubes and pot lights burned out in the gym and we are in the process of getting pricing for the replacements.
3. The main doors are still not closing properly all the time.
4. There was a flood of water which came up in the vestry sink causing the carpet to be wet. Fans were brought in and we will look into what caused this problem.
5. Two of the parking lot lights seem to be out again.

Please let Jo-Anne know if you see another repairs and maintenance issues that should be addressed. We can't fix them if we don't know about them!

In His Service

## Financial report for the period ending September 30, 2023 By Jim Smale

-	2023	2022
<b>Revenue</b>		
English	\$82,912	
Chinese	\$28,155	
Korean	\$9,565	
Oromo	\$8,430	
Hispanic	\$4,425	
Total offerings	<u>\$133,487</u>	\$136,734
LCC Mission		
Subsidy	\$18,000	
Rentals	\$64,410	
Other	\$6,789	
Summer worker		
subsidy	\$9,345	
Ministry		
revenue	\$7,274	
Preschool	<u>\$78,705</u>	
Total other		
revenue	<u>\$184,438</u>	
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$317,926</b>	<b>\$316,907</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Synod missions	\$9,000	
Compassion		
Canada	\$1,107	
Mission trip	\$2,136	
Other	\$484	
Preschool	\$70,138	
Admin	\$8,573	
Payroll	\$182,505	
Building	<u>\$69,225</u>	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$343,167</b>	<b>\$321,931</b>
<b>Net loss</b>	<b>-\$25,245</b>	<b>-\$5,024</b>

